Meeting Notice Bureau of Indian Affairs

Scoping Meetings for Environmental Impact Statement Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe - Land Into Trust Application Taunton and Mashpee, Massachusetts

The Bureau of Indian Affairs intends to gather the information necessary to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the acquisition in trust for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe of 170.1 acres of land currently held by the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe in the Town of Mashpee, Massachusetts, and 146.39 acres of land in the City of Taunton, Massachusetts. The purpose of the proposed action is to help provide for the economic development of the Tribe and to create a tribal land base. The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe is proposing the development of a casino, hotel, parking, and other facilities supporting the casino in the City of Taunton and the continuation of current uses and Tribal government and housing on the land in Mashpee.

As part of the National Environmental Policy Act process, two scoping meetings will be held to gather public input to determine the range of issues to be covered in the EIS. Areas of concern so far identified include traffic, air quality, wetland resources, cultural and historic resources, water supply, wastewater, storm water, land impacts, rare species and wildlife, environmental justice, soils and geology, land use, community character, and safety. You are invited to learn more about and comment on this proposal and the scope of issues to be examined by attending one or both of the following public scoping meetings:

June 20, 2012, 6 p.m.
Taunton High School
50 William Street
Taunton, Massachusetts

June 21, 2012, 6 p.m. Mashpee High School 500 Old Barnstable Road Mashpee, Massachusetts

For further information, please contact:

Mr. Chet L. McGhee, Regional Environmental Scientist Eastern Regional Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs 545 Marriott Drive, Suite 700 Nashville, Tennessee 37214 (615) 564-6500